

**Five Card Stud Poker with Rollover Pots and Hand Qualifying Criteria**

Trips is a five-card stud poker table game requiring “trips” (three of a kind) or better to win. The game is played with a traditional deck of 52 playing cards plus two jokers that serve as wild cards. Trips was designed and developed by DigiDeal Corporation and is exclusively played on DigiDeal’s patented Digital Card System (DCS) six-position table. The DCS table is an electromechanical shuffler that utilizes digital card facsimiles for game play.

The game can be played with varying numbers of cards in the players’ hands and the game can be played as either a “stud” (no draw) or as a “draw” game where players draw cards to improve their hands. The DigiDeal game called Trips (presented for review) is the five-card stud version. This version of the game requires much less hand “pondering” time on the players’ behalf and players act on their hands in “unison,” thus the game plays much more rapidly.

In Trips five card stud poker, all cards are dealt face up. All players will place a \$1 dollar (or less) fee and their “first bet” at the inception of each hand. The fee is collected by the dealer, and is the profit/revenue to the house. All bets are equal with no raises. The bet denomination is set by the house and may be different for different tables. In other words, subject to regulatory restrictions, the house could offer a \$1 table, a \$2 table, a \$5 table, a \$10 table, etc. With the highest permissible bet in Washington being \$25.

The dealer has no hand. Each player receives a hand with each player’s objective being to “build” a hand that meets the “qualifying criteria” (three of a kind or better) for winning the “pot.” Keeping in mind that the player with the highest-ranking hand wins ten, fifteen or twenty percent (house option) of the pot after each round\*. After the first two cards are dealt, each player is required to make a decision to either bet or fold before the additional cards are dealt. If no player attains a hand of “trips” (three of a kind) or better, the remaining pot (after payout of ten, fifteen or twenty percent (house option) to the high hand), rolls over to the next round of play. Any player who has folded his or her hand is eligible to re-enter the game if no player wins the pot

The moment a player receives a hand of Trips (three of a kind) or better, the words “Qualifying Hand” are displayed on his or her screen. In addition, the sound of a bell ringing three times is utilized to notify all players that at least one player at the table has qualified to win the pot. Once the final bets are made and the final card (the fifth card) is dealt, the border of the winning player’s screen turns green with the word “Winner” printed in bold letters across the middle of the screen.

\* The high hand winner receives ten, fifteen or twenty percent (house option) of the pot rounded to the nearest full chip value. In the case of the percentage payout being exactly 50% of the chip value, the high hand payout will be rounded down to the nearest full chip value

### **Game Play Description:**

It takes from two to six players to play the game. When players first sit down to play, their screen is in the “idle” position. There is no dealer screen and player #6’s screen is used for “options” and menu settings.

- In order for a player to receive a hand, he/she must place a \$1 (or less) fee and a first bet.
- When a player places his or her fee their screen will show “Ante Placed, Place 1<sup>st</sup> Bet to Play.”
- When a player places his or her first bet, their screen will show “1st Bet Placed, Place Ante to Play.”
- When a player places both his or her fee and first bet, their screen will show “You’re In!”
- Visually, the dealer confirms that “You’re In” is displayed on each player’s screen.
- Dealer presses the “deal” key, cards shuffle and the dealer removes the fee. Player screen now says “No More Bets.” The 1<sup>st</sup> bets have remained in each player’s betting circle.
- Dealer now removes the players’ first bet and moves them to the “center pot” area of the layout. When the last player bet is removed, the first two cards are dealt.
- Each player must now bet or fold.
- Players respond by either “playing”- placing their 2<sup>nd</sup> bet in the betting circle, or “folding”- placing no bet in the betting circle.
- If a player bets, the second bet amount is equal to the first bet (and so also are all subsequent bets).
- If a player folds, he/she is still eligible for the pot if there is no winner (Trips or better) in the round in which the player has folded.
- Dealer now presses “deal” button, which locks in bets. “No More Bets!” appears on the player’s screen.
- Dealer now removes each player’s 2<sup>nd</sup> bet and moves them to the “center pot.” When the last player bet is removed, the 3<sup>rd</sup> card is dealt.
- If any player has three-of-a-kind, they are considered to have a “qualifying hand.” This language is reflected on their playing screen.
- Each player now must bet or fold.
- Players now respond by either “playing”- placing their 3<sup>rd</sup> bet in the betting circle, or “folding”- placing no bet in the betting circle.
- If a player bets, this third bet amount is the same as the first and second, respectively.
- If a player folds, he/she is still eligible for the pot, if there is no winner (Trips or better) in the round in which the player has folded.
- Dealer now presses “deal” button, which locks in bets. “No More Bets!” appears on the player’s screen.
- Dealer now removes each player’s 3<sup>rd</sup> bet and moves them to the “center pot.” When the last player bet is removed, the 4<sup>th</sup> card is dealt.
- If any player has three-of-a-kind, they are considered to have a “qualifying hand.” This language is reflected on their playing screen.

- Each player now must bet or fold.
- Players now respond by either “playing”- placing their 4<sup>th</sup> and final bet in the betting circle, or “folding”- by placing no bet in the betting circle.
- If a player bets, this fourth bet amount is the same as the first, second, and third, respectively.
- If a player folds, he/she is still eligible for the pot, if there is no winner (Trips or better) in the round in which the player has folded.
- Dealer now presses “deal” button, which locks in bets. “No More Bets!” appears on the player’s screen.
- Dealer now removes each player’s 4<sup>th</sup> bet and moves them to the “center pot.” When the last player bet is removed, the 5<sup>th</sup> and final card is dealt.
- If no player has a qualifying hand (3 of a kind or higher), then the player with the highest-ranking poker hand wins ten, fifteen, or twenty percent of the pot. The border of that player’s screen becomes green and the words “Hi- Hand Winner” appear across the front of that player’s screen.
- The meters on both the player’s screen and the shoe calculate the Hi-Hand payout.
- If no player has a qualifying hand (3 of a kind or higher), the player screens for the players other than the Hi-Hand winner will display a red border with the words “No Win” or “Folded” across the front of the screen. And the pot “rolls over” to the next round and each player (including those who folded in the previous round) who wishes to continue playing must place their fee and first bet of the new round.
- If a player has a qualifying hand (3 of a kind or higher) and it is the highest qualifying hand, then a “Winner” icon will show on that player’s screen and the dealer will push the pot to that winning player.
- If more than one player receives three-of-a-kind or higher, the highest hand wins.
- If a player “sits out a hand” by not placing his/her fee and first bet, that player is no longer eligible to play another hand until another player has won the pot.
- The inability of a player to place a bet (i.e. player runs out of money before the pot is won) results in a mandatory fold.

#### **Additional Considerations:**

- Each active player’s screen will show the total money in the pot at any given time.
- Each player’s screen and the shoe screen will show the dealer and the players how much money to remove from the pot to pay the Hi-Hand winner.
- Game meters will show fee revenue.
- Game meters will show total bets placed/won, total bet \$ placed, average pot \$ won and largest pot \$ won.
- Game meters will show number of rounds with split pots and how many winners split the pot.
- Game meters will show # of total rounds.
- Game meters will show # of rounds in which there was a 3 of a Kind or higher hand.
- Game meters will show # of rounds in which there were 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 hands of 3 of a Kind or higher.